





## Brainstorms

By FERRIN COX

The interest in the hospital has literally come out of the woodwork this past week. We have gotten more calls than we could possibly count, and more folks stopping us on the street asking questions about the city and/or hospital than any time in recent history. Whatever the ultimate outcome of the city's funding problem, we are confident that local citizens will be better informed and therefore better citizens.

Probably the most misunderstood item in the whole deal is the one-cent sales tax passed on September 10, 1957, "for exclusive use of the hospital." Collection of the tax actually began on October 1 of that year, and those backing the proposal promised the people it would be repealed when the hospital was built and mortgages paid. Technically this was done, as the city council at that time rescinded the tax and re-imposed it the same night as revenue for the General Fund. Twice since then they have earmarked part of the sales tax for hospital/nursing home. First, to build the nursing home and then to expand the hospital (northeast wing). Presently NO TAX DOLLARS are going to the Elba General Hospital, but the commitment to the present expansion is due and will be due for the next 25 years.

We are now hearing some talk of the city's funding of the various services offered to the local citizens. This is healthy until we realize that some are "choosing sides" between local support of schools vs. medical services. To this country boy, we need both, and there is no latitude to choose between the two. If we have a problem with one, then solve it. If we have a problem with the other, solve it; however, if we have a problem of funding ALL SERVICES with the present income, the problem is a city problem of all the citizens, and not a school or hospital problem.

Researching the background to the fact Elba has a hospital this week we noticed several unusual things. Mayor at the time many of the decisions were being made to secure a hospital was H.C. Taylor. Herschel, who died last week, was active in promoting the sales tax, active in working out the details for the federal grant, and wrote several open letters reprinted in this newspaper pointing out the many advantages to having a local hospital. Personally this country boy wishes Mr. Taylor were here today to guide me through the maze that has been created by the announcement that city funds were running short.

Well, the truckers' strike is over. Actually, the violence has stopped (most of the truckers kept rolling). We saw an editorial cartoon of a person on the overpass shooting at a moving truck. The wording underneath said something to the effect "we ain't gonna let those government folks kill us." Well, they are right; if they commit suicide, then no one else can kill them. The tax they were upset over does not become effective all at once, being phased in over several years. This means to me that they have ample time to work with the Congress for changes without all this striking and violence.

Improvements in our community cannot be accomplished by any one person or group -- it will take cooperation of all citizens. Last week the Chamber of Commerce got the official word that Elba had been approved as a Prepared City. At the early morning meeting where the announcement was made, the number of local people who must be actively involved was very low. One city official, a couple of industrial board members who happen to also be active Chamber officials, and most (not all) Chamber of Commerce officials were there. Now the world didn't come to an end because they weren't present -- and some probably had good reasons -- but we will continue to step on toes as long as people who have accepted responsibility fail to show commitment on those responsibilities.

We thought Jimmy Holley had succeeded in returning Coffee County to a single legislative district until we read the print and discovered that another bill had substituted, and lo and behold -- we are still divided. For this we owe thanks to Representative James Salsar of Ozark and the majority of the House of Representatives. Maybe the Senate will make some changes and give us another chance. Actually we would rather the federal courts not get into the matter, even if we do remain divided.

The Elba Chamber of Commerce is planning several activities to promote Elba and benefit local folks. One is a bass tournament being looked into for Saturday, April 9. If Elba River can hold 50 bass without flooding its banks, apparently the project will go forward. Actually we are a bit interested in the proposed \$500 prize outright and sure hope Harry Jacobs and company don't try using us to bail water or something!

There is a lot of excitement running around the Ft. Rucker area over the announcement that Army Aviation will become a separate command, much as armor, transportation, etc. are today. We don't fully understand the plans and haven't found anyone who does; but if it is better for the country and better for Coffee County -- then we are for it 100 percent!

## Free Tax Assistance Available In Area

Free federal income tax assistance in the Enterprise area is available to many low income, elderly and other taxpayers in need of help in filling out their 1982 tax forms.

Anyone with a relatively simple tax status can obtain help in preparing basic tax forms through the volunteer income tax assistance (VITA) program.

Volunteers trained in basic income tax preparation will assist taxpayers in a step-by-step completion of Form 1040A and simple 1040's. Taxpayers can also

receive information on tax benefits such as the earned income credit, child care credit and tax treatment of pension benefits. VITA assistance will be offered at the Human Resource Center, located at 301 East Lee Street, from 2 to 4 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays.

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## The Elba Clipper

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## SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$9.00 per year  
 6 months - \$5.00 - Includes City & State Sales Tax  
 Alabama counties - \$10.50 per yr. - Including Sales Tax  
 6 months - \$6.00  
 Outside Alabama - \$11.00 per yr. - Including Sales Tax  
 6 months - \$6.00

## DEATHS

### IRENE BEST CRABTREE

Mrs. Irene Best Crabtree, age 79, of Opp, died February 11, 1983 in the Mizell Memorial Hospital. She was a former resident of Coffee County.

Funeral services were held February 13, at 2:00 p.m. from Rainer's Chapel, in Opp, with Rev. Tommy Greene officiating. Burial was in the Rhodes Schoolhouse Cemetery, with Rainer directing.

Survivors include four daughters: Evelyn Elders, Edna Earl Jackson, both of Opp; Velma Moore, Elba; Thelma Savell, Winston Salem, North Carolina; two sons: Dewey Edward Crabtree, Kinross; Thomas Junior Crabtree, Opp; one sister: Gertrude Best, Page, Opp.

Three brothers: Gordon Best, Quantia, FL; Horace Best, DeFuniak Springs, FL; Candy Best, Orlando, FL.

Twelve grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

### MRS. JOYCE S. POOLE

Mrs. Joyce S. Poole, age 41, of 2703 Boulder Circle, Huntsville, died Tuesday, February 8, 1983.

Her funeral was held Thursday, February 10 at 11 a.m. in Whitesburg Baptist Church, Dr. Jimmy Jackson officiating. Burial was in Maple Hill Cemetery, Laughlin Funeral Home directing.

She is survived by her husband, Bill E. Poole; daughter, Scarlett Lee Poole, both of Huntsville; her mother, Mrs. Georgia Spivey of Huntsville; one sister, Mrs. Kathryn Hays of New Brockton; one brother, Gene Spivey of New Orleans.

### HERSCHEL CONNER TAYLOR

Mr. Herschel Conner Taylor, age 72, of Elba, died February 9, 1983, in the Baptist Hospital in Montgomery, after a lengthy illness.

Funeral services were held February 11, at 11:00 a.m. from Hayes Funeral Home Chapel, with the Rev. Dr. Pat McFadden officiating. Burial was in Evergreen Cemetery, with Hayes directing.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Jessie Carr Williams Taylor, Elba; one daughter, Henri Ann Taylor, Ocean Springs, MS.

One brother, Randolph Taylor, Elba; one sister - Claudine Nevels, Jav. FL.

### Computers Users' Group Meeting To Be Held

Anyone interested in the Texas Instruments 99 micro-computer is invited to attend a Users' Group meeting on Tuesday, February 22 at 8 p.m. The meeting will be in room A-204 at Enterprise State Junior College.

Programs and operation of the TI 99/4 computer. New owners are welcome, as are persons contemplating the purchase of a home computer. Call Dr. Crampton at ESJC for further information.

### 4-H News

Mr. Jack Tatum came to the Elba Middle School on Monday February 7, 1983. The song leader, Tracy King lead us in a song, The Star Spangled Banner. The the vice president lead us in the 4-H and American Pledge. Then the secretary Derek Stevens called roll. Then we got to see a dogs real heart.

Then we adjourned the meeting.

Reporter Mark Matthews

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Left to Right: Sheila Hornsby, Chairman, Jayceettes Week; Mayor Bob English; Denise Roden, president, Elba Jayceettes

## Mayor Proclaims Jayceettes Week February 13-19

The week of February 13-19 was set aside by Mayor Bob English to honor the fastest growing young women's organization in America, the United States Jayceettes.

An organization of more than 59,000, the U.S. Jayceettes provide leadership training for young women between the ages of 18 and 35. Personal growth and leadership skills are developed through service in over 3,500 communities across America.

Last year the organization raised over \$1 million for various foundations and was supported by the U.S. Jayceettes, Indiana, Kansas, President.

The group supports St. Jude Children's Hospital, Cystic Fibrosis, Juvenile Diabetes, Muscular Dystrophy, March of Dimes and the Rocky Mountain Multiple Sclerosis Facility in Denver, Colorado.

The Elba Jayceettes are members of the U.S. Jayceettes and have promoted community service in Elba for over two years.

Horst of Salina, Kansas.

Her funeral was held Thursday, February 10 at 11 a.m. in Whitesburg Baptist Church, Dr. Jimmy Jackson officiating. Burial was in Maple Hill Cemetery, Laughlin Funeral Home directing.

She is survived by her husband, Bill E. Poole; daughter, Scarlett Lee Poole, both of Huntsville; her mother, Mrs. Georgia Spivey of Huntsville; one sister, Mrs. Kathryn Hays of New Brockton; one brother, Gene Spivey of New Orleans.

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## Elba Police Docket

The Elba Police Dept. reported an active week with 16 arrests and 3 complaints logged. The arrests were for speeding (9), reckless driving (3), driving with suspended license, attempt to elude and driving under the influence (2). Complaints included attempted burglaries at Hayes Funeral Home and Hollis Timber Company and the theft of a garbage can at a private residence.

Following are daily reports from the police radio log:  
**TUESDAY, FEB. 8**  
 Activity on this day included a wreck at the corner of Caroline and Reese Avenue (8:03 a.m.), an attempted burglary (10:42 a.m.) and a domestic disturbance on Smith Avenue (4:37).  
**WEDNESDAY, FEB. 9**  
 A very quiet day with the only activity being a fire on 84 East (11:49 a.m.), a Rescue Squad transfer to Opp (12:58 p.m.) and a wreck on Yelverton Street (3:59 p.m.).  
**THURSDAY, FEB. 10**  
 The only two items of interest on this day's log included a theft on Brunson Circle (1:52 p.m.) and a Rescue Squad call to the County Jail (10:58 p.m.).

**FRIDAY, FEB. 11**  
 The weekend got off to a quiet start with the only activity being a wreck at Russell Cash and Carry (3:38 p.m.) and a patrol car in pursuit of a motorcycle (11:55 p.m.).

**SATURDAY, FEB. 12**  
 This day was a little more active, with activity including a wreck on 84 West at Danley's Crossroads (2:34 a.m.), a Rescue Squad transfer to Dothan (8:55 a.m.), a wreck at the intersection of 84 East and 87 South (2:34 p.m.), a domestic disturbance at Powell's Apartments (6:11 p.m.) and a Rescue Squad transfer to Dothan (11:52 p.m.).

**SUNDAY, FEB. 13**  
 Activity on this day included a complaint of loud music on Smith Avenue (2:42 a.m.) and a Rescue Squad transfer to Enterprise (5:49 p.m.).

**MONDAY, FEB. 14**  
 The new week got off to an active start, with activity including a Rescue Squad transfer to Birmingham (9:18 a.m.), a wreck on Caroline St. (1:45 p.m.) and a Rescue Squad transfer to a private residence.

**TUESDAY, FEB. 15**  
 Activity on this day included a complaint of loud music on Smith Avenue (2:42 a.m.) and a Rescue Squad transfer to Enterprise (5:49 p.m.).

**WEDNESDAY, FEB. 16**  
 Activity on this day included a complaint of loud music on Smith Avenue (2:42 a.m.) and a Rescue Squad transfer to Enterprise (5:49 p.m.).

**THURSDAY, FEB. 17**  
 Activity on this day included a complaint of loud music on Smith Avenue (2:42 a.m.) and a Rescue Squad transfer to Enterprise (5:49 p.m.).

**FRIDAY, FEB. 18**  
 Activity on this day included a complaint of loud music on Smith Avenue (2:42 a.m.) and a Rescue Squad transfer to Enterprise (5:49 p.m.).

**SATURDAY, FEB. 19**  
 Activity on this day included a complaint of loud music on Smith Avenue (2:42 a.m.) and a Rescue Squad transfer to Enterprise (5:49 p.m.).

**SUNDAY, FEB. 20**  
 Activity on this day included a complaint of loud music on Smith Avenue (2:42 a.m.) and a Rescue Squad transfer to Enterprise (5:49 p.m.).

**MONDAY, FEB. 21**  
 Activity on this day included a complaint of loud music on Smith Avenue (2:42 a.m.) and a Rescue Squad transfer to Enterprise (5:49 p.m.).

**TUESDAY, FEB. 22**





(L-R) Lori Fudge, Wendy Gargis &amp; Deana Kyle.

## 1983 Valentine Sweethearts

The Elba Pilot Club sponsored its third annual "Valentine Sweetheart" contest on Monday night, Feb. 14, at the Elba High School auditorium, with Wendy Gargis and Lori Clark claiming top honors in the two age groups.

Wendy, a sixth-grader, was named the "Junior Valentine Sweetheart" over a large group of lovely young girls. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Gargis and her hobbies include horseback riding, skating, swimming and playing the trumpet.

Lori Clark, an eighth-grader, was crowned "Valentine Sweetheart" over a very large field of lovely young ladies. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Clark and her hobbies include swimming, skating, bicycle riding and playing the flute.

The first runner-up was Lorie Fudge, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Fudge. She is a sixth-grader and enjoys twirling, dancing, skating and playing the flute. The second runner-up was Deana Kyle, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dean Kyle. She is in the sixth grade and enjoys skating, dancing, swimming and playing the saxophone. Other girls in the "Top 10" included: Jennifer Smith, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Smith, Jr.; Jill Maddox, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Maddox; Danon Lowery, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin C. Lowery, Jr.; Kim Kelley, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Kelley; Tab Bryan, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Bryan; Camilla Blasi, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul L. Wallace, and Chastity Moulton, the daughter of Mrs. Peggy Young.



(L-R) Melanie Ann Barnes, Lori Clark &amp; Misty Whitehead

## The Elba City Library...

### A Place Of Learning For All Ages

The Elba City Library is a place of learning and enrichment for all ages. It is easily accessible, and is free. Located on Putman Street in the Kimmey Clinic building since October of 1980, the library houses a reader's delight. Not only are there the most up-to-date and timely books, but also available are periodicals, magazines, and encyclopedias, and all may be checked out except the encyclopedias.

Reference books available include the World Book and Britannica, with year books added to keep them current. Children's reference books are also available, covering subjects studied in school, such as science, etc. Climate of the library is pleasant and comfortable, with plenty of seating and table space. A small kitchenette provides facilities for refreshments for the various groups which meet there. These include study clubs, garden clubs, AARP, Young at Heart, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Rescue Squad. A conference room, complete with table and chairs, is an integral part of the building.

"We're so proud of our library," commented Mrs. Mary Dowling, librarian. "We just can't say enough about it. So many people have worked so hard for this library - the public deserves this note of appreciation for what they've done." Mrs. Dowling remarked, "Quite a number of retired people come often."

Library hours are 10:12 and 1:43 Monday - Friday, except Wednesday, when hours are only 10:12. Books may be checked out for two weeks, with a charge of four cents per day for overdue books. "We do have a number of borrowers who are delinquent in returning their books, and we lose a number of books," lamented Mrs. Dowling. "But the majority of patrons are responsible persons who realize the value of books and appreciate them."

Working with Mrs. Dowling is Mrs. Laura Barker, who is available five hours a day. There is a special section in the library for children, and during the summer months there is a Story Hour for age four through first grade, and a Reading Program for second through sixth grades. "These are well-attended," said Mrs. Dowling. "They are supported by various clubs, and the children are served light refreshments."

A special feature at this time of year is the availability of tax forms - federal and state. Only one copy per patron is allowed, however. Monetary and actual book donations may be made to the library, and plaques are displayed naming financial contributors.

One outstanding need of the library at this time is a sign outside. Serving on the library board are Mrs. Hayward Taylor, Mrs. Sam Rowe, Mrs. Carolyn Brunson, Mrs. A.K. Allred and Mrs. Fred Clark. Mrs. Elmer Taylor is Elba's representative to the Cross Trails Regional Library Service. Phone number at the library is 897-6921. Why not pay your library a visit? You'll be glad you did.

The American Ballet Theatre II will be presented in Opp Saturday evening, March 19, in the high school auditorium, beginning at 7:30. The program is being brought by the Opp Arts Council. Special group prices are available for tickets ordered by February 15. The professional ballet program will include high quality performance and a variety of repertoire.

**H&R BLOCK**  
The new tax laws. This year's number one reason to go to H&R Block.

No Appt. Necessary  
322 Simmons St. - 897-6210  
HOURS: 9-5 Sat. 9-2 Closed Wed.

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Send us the type hearing aid battery you're currently using or the make and model number of your hearing aid and we'll send you at no cost or obligation Free Batteries and a convenient Carrying Case.

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Miss Collier To Present Faculty Recital

Miss Mary Collier, soprano, will present a faculty recital Monday, February 21 at 8 p.m. in Long Hall at Troy State University.

The program will feature songs by two Alabama composers. "After-math" and "Gifts" by Dr. Carl Vollrath of Troy State University will be paired with "Sarabande" and "Hold Dear Things Not Too Close," written for voice, clarinet and piano, will feature Dr. David Elster as clarinet soloist.

Other works will include "Sveglatevi nel core" by Handel, three songs by Faure, Saint-Saen's "Amour, viens aider" from "Samson and Delilah," an aria from Puccini's "Il Tabarro" and "Luke Haverall" by the American composer, John Duke.

Miss Collier received her bachelors and masters from Troy State University after graduating from the Alabama School of Fine Arts in Birmingham. She has studied with Phil Kelley, Andrea Nelson, Ann Parrillo and Vylan Wood. She is a past winner of the Birmingham Symphony Youth Auditions and American General Directors Association State Competition.

Miss Collier has appeared in numerous Troy State Opera productions and will sing the role of GOLDIE in "Fiddler on the Roof" May 12 and 14 at Troy State University.

Miss Collier will be accompanied by Phil Brannon on piano.

## New Arrival

GUNTER WAYNE AKRIDGE

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Akridge announce the birth of their first child, a son, named Gunter Wayne, on February 9, 1983, at Coffee General Hospital. He weighed 7 lbs. 14 oz.

Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Durrell Gailmore, and Mr. and Mrs. R.A. Akridge, all of Elba.

Great grandmother is Mrs. Jessie B. Bryan, Elba.

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## Azalea Garden Club Meets In Home Of Mrs. Miller

The Azalea Garden Club held its February meeting at the home of Mrs. Thomas Miller, with Mrs. Barry Giles, Mrs. V.D. McCreary, Mrs. Nellie Martin and Mrs. Doris H. Cooper as co-hostesses.

After a brief business session, a program of Egg Artistry was presented by Mrs. M.D. Harper of Montgomery. Mrs. Harper gave a synopsis of the History of Egg Decoration and explained techniques used in the decorative process. Numerous examples of her expertise in the art were on display.

Mrs. Harper's work has been exhibited in Chicago, Dallas and other cities where conventions of Egg Artistry have been held. Among honors Mrs. Harper has received was an invitation to present her collection of eggs during "Easter Art Weeks" in 1980 at the Art Museum in Gainesville, Georgia. The eggs were also displayed during the South Alabama Fair in Montgomery.

Mrs. Harper is a former president of the Garden Club of Alabama, Inc., an accredited Master Flower Show Judge as well as an authority on the medium of egg ornamentation.

Nineteen members were present. Mrs. Z.W. Crumpler, Mrs. Frank Brand and Mrs. Donald Cline of Enterprise were guests of the club.

## Parents Without Partners Meet

Members of the Wiregrass Chapter of Parents Without Partners met at the Western Sizzlin Steak House in Enterprise on January 26 to hear Mr. Lloyd Picou, a representative from H&R Block. Mr. Picou talked about the tax laws and changes that are pertinent to single parents.

First, Mr. Picou told members that income taxes have been around since the early 1900's. The government didn't get serious about them until after World War II. Since then, the tax laws have changed many times, both Federal and State laws. He pointed out that Louisiana has taken two per cent of what an individual paid to Federal income tax. This was done for a few years, then changed.

Mr. Picou stated that even though everyone panics at the word "Audit," all returns are audited either by machines or humans. He also said it is very important to keep records "as you go."

The Alabama Tax Return has several changes, making it similar to the Federal Return. State taxes on alcohol, tobacco, gasoline, and utilities are no longer deductible. He also pointed out that the rates have increased. Alabama does not

allow an exemption for disability payments from military services now.

Mr. Picou stated that alimony must be claimed as income and payment of alimony can be deducted. He pointed out that child support payments are not claimed and can be deducted. He also discussed widows' benefits and estate taxes.

Mr. Picou then discussed individual questions of members. Any single parent wanting more information about Parents Without Partners, please call 347-4191 or 347-0673.

## Birth

Billie Wayne and Charlotte Kay Yarbrough announce the birth of their son who was born at East Alabama Medical Center February 9th. They have named him Cody Dawson Yarbrough.

Proud grandparents are James and Fostoria Kite of Opelika and James H. Yarbrough of Houston, Texas, and the late Mr. and Mrs. Dewey W. Tucker. She is a graduate of Troy State University.

## MISS ESJIC PAGEANT

Thirteen Enterprise State Junior College beauties will compete for the Miss ESJIC title on Thursday, February 24, at 7 p.m. From left, standing: Janet Strickland, Ozark; Pam Williams, Elba; Cassie Leonard, Kinston; Lisa Hamilton, Ozark; Renee Driggers, New Brockton; SEATED: Stephanie Stanford, Geneva; Alicia Butler and Rebecca Yates, Enterprise; Dawn Money, Geneva; Joan Fannuch, Enterprise; Lisa Smith, Elba; Cassandra Thames, Coffee Springs; and Carmen Grice, Enterprise.

## Bo Bryan Celebrates Ninth Birthday

Bo Bryan celebrated his 9th birthday on January 30, 1983 at his home in Bowling Green, Kentucky. Pac-Man was the theme for this occasion and his cake was baked and decorated by his mother, Judy Bryan.

Bo had invited several school mates and neighbors to help him celebrate. Also sharing in the festivities were his mother and daddy and sister, Leigh. Out of town guests were his grandparents, Mama Rene and Gandy Bryan from Elba who traveled to Bowling Green to help him celebrate this special day.

Bo received many useful gifts and as each of his guests departed he gave each one party favors as a remembrance.



Bo &amp; Leigh Bryan

## Socials



Miss Tucker To Marry Mr. Stokes In April

Mr. and Mrs. J. Edd Tucker announce the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Shirley Gayle Tucker, to John Norman Stokes of Andalusia, son of Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie S. Stokes, also of Andalusia. The wedding will be an event of April 10, 1983, at three o'clock in the afternoon at the Elba United Methodist Church.

The future groom is the grandson of the late Mr. and Mrs. Henry Evan Holland and the late Mr. and Mrs. Noah Stanton Stokes. He is a graduate of Auburn University where he was a member of Delta Chi fraternity. He is owner of Martin Tomato Co. Inc. of Andalusia.

No local invitations are being sent, but all friends and relatives are invited.

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## WATCH THEIR SMILES GROW!

These Days Only

February Thur. Fri. Sat.

17 18 19

DAILY: 10 AM - 3 PM

North Troy Hwy., Elba

TG&Y

BEVERLY HARGROVE AND ANDY BULLARD, both of Elba, are scheduled to perform with the Troy State University Dancers when the group presents its third annual performance in Smith Hall auditorium, Thursday, February 17. The program entitled "On Broadway" will include jazz, ballet, punk, tap and pointe numbers. Pictured with Beverly (standing left) and Andy (standing right) are Cindy Deloney (back standing center), Stella Stewart and Kim Flowers, kneeling, and Faye Flowers and Tammi Burdick, seated.

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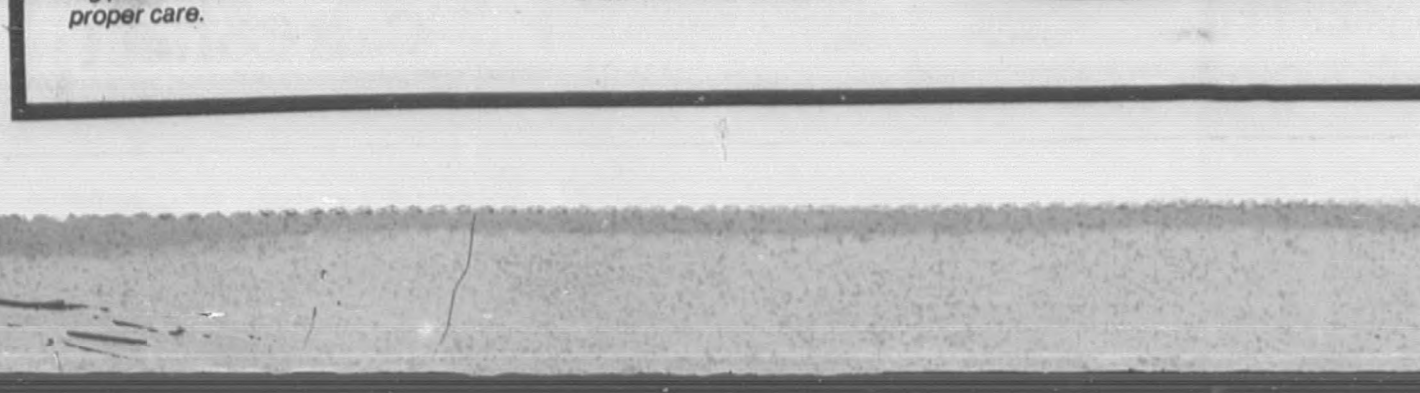
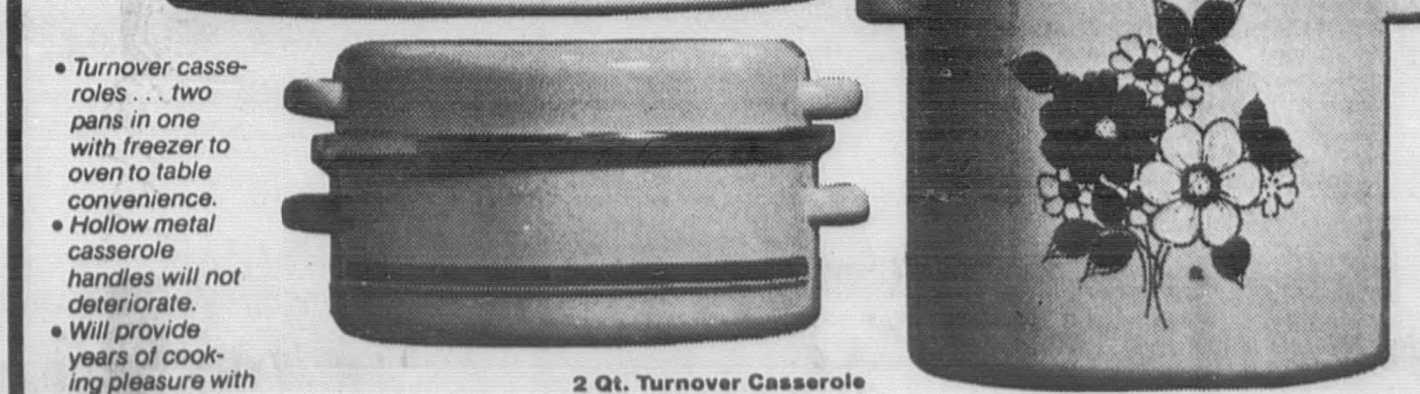
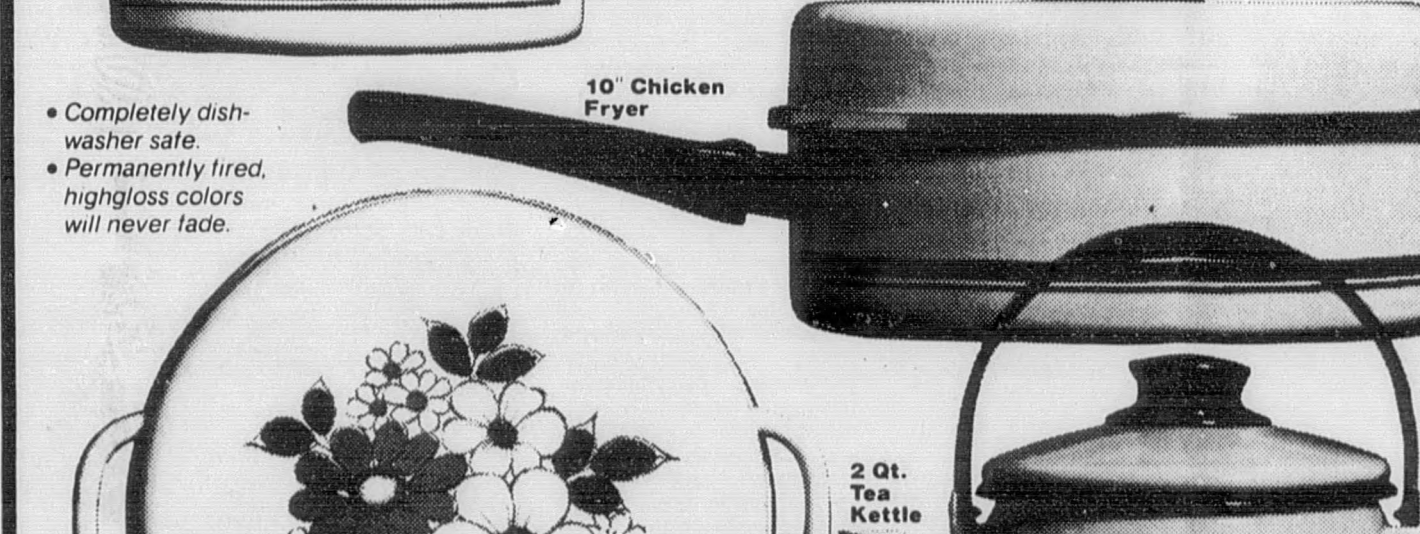
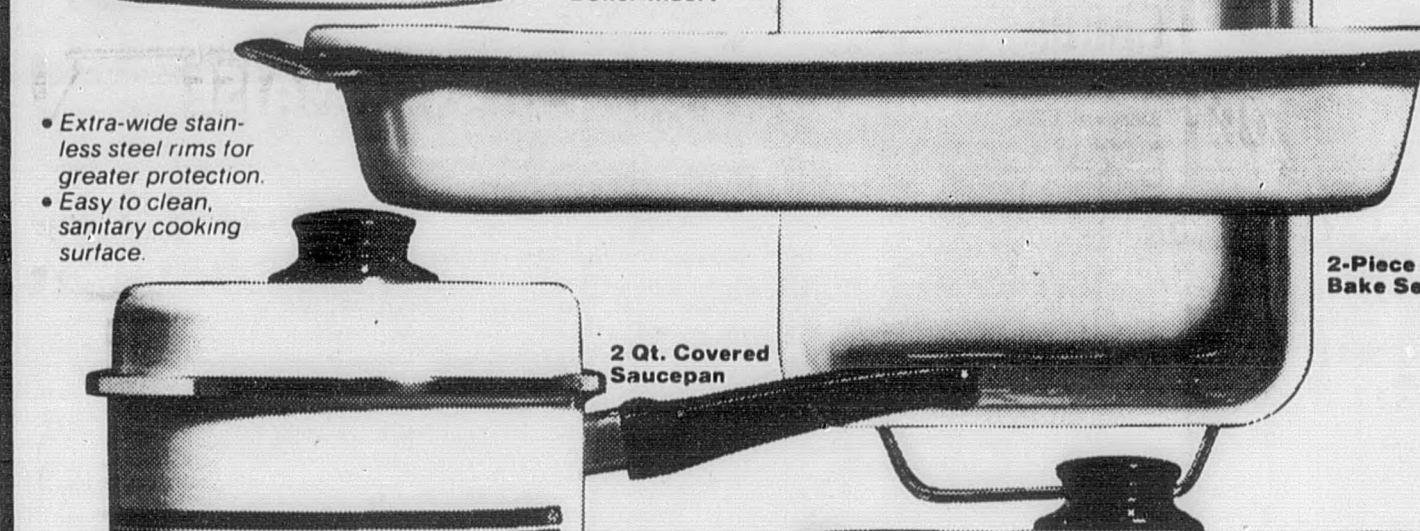
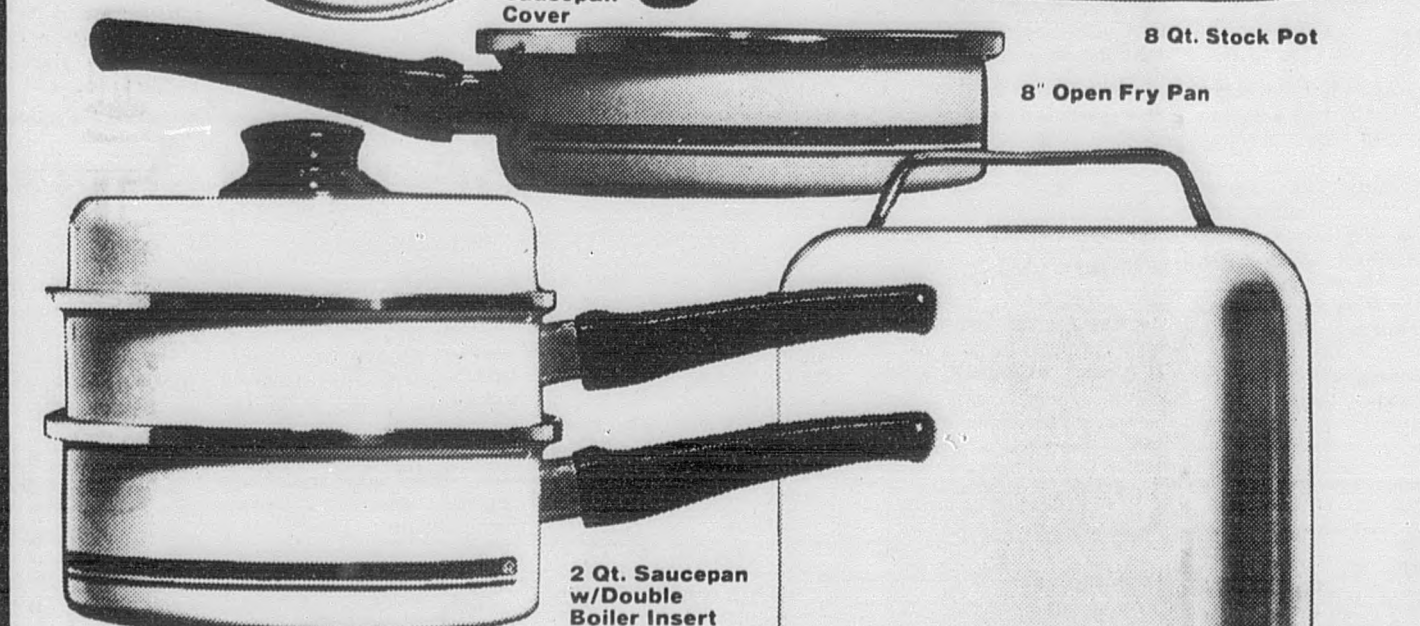
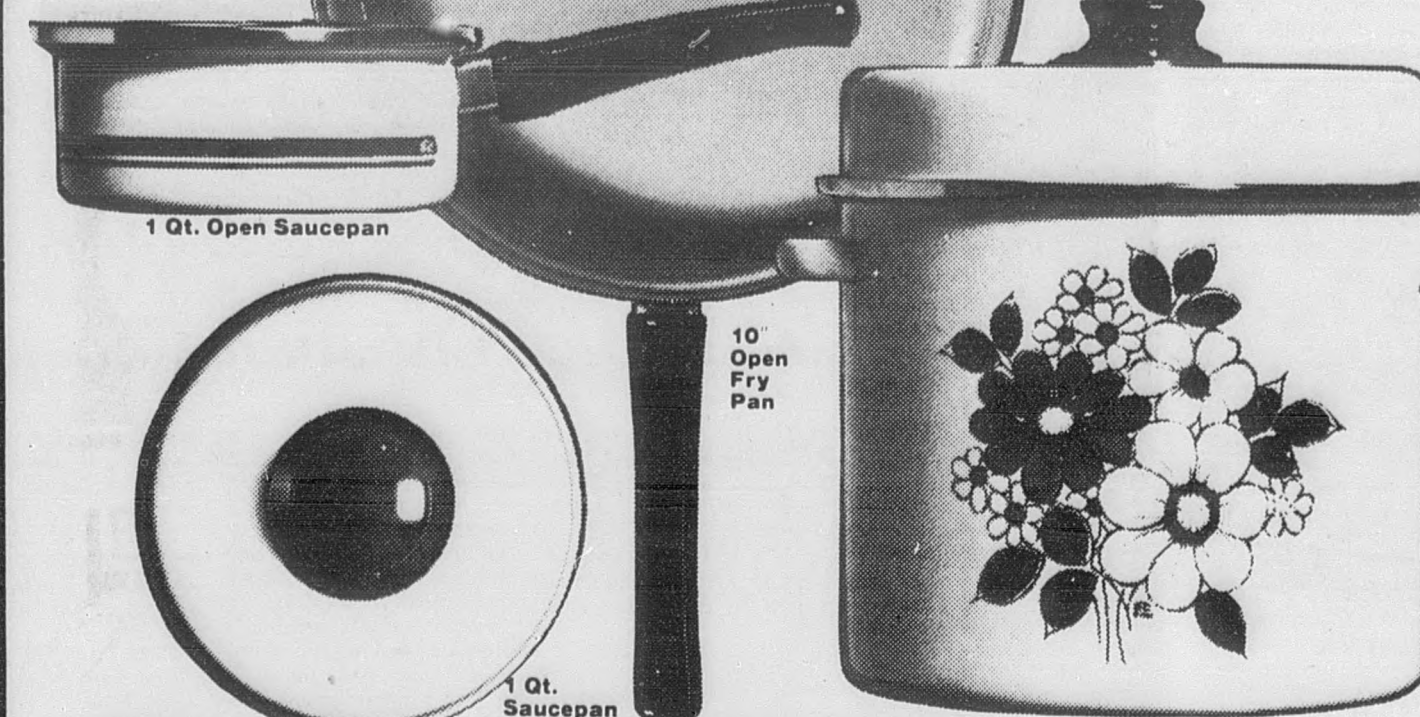
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## SPORTS

Views From

## The Pressbox

By Ricky Mularz

Editor

High school basketball's regular season will draw to a close this week, and that means the State Tournament can't be far away. I've made the annual trek to Tuscaloosa nine straight years, and unless our baby decides to come 10 days early, I'll make it again!

## JUNIOR TIGERS FALL IN OPENING ROUND

Coch Mickey McCollough's Elba Junior High Tigers got roughed up a bit in their state tournament debut last week in Phenix City, but the Tigers have nothing to feel bad about. Elba's young men rolled up 16 wins during the season and posted historic wins over Dauphin and Enterprise, and topped it off by winning both the county and area championships. The Tigers got a tough draw at State in 4A Williamson, as the 42-point loss indicates, however, the Tigers never gave up and gave it all they had until the final buzzer. Elba Junior High may not be a 4A power, but it is the county and area champ!

I can't leave the subject of our junior team without praising their fans. At least 150 people made the two-and-a-half-hour trip to Phenix City, and except for the host school, it was the biggest congregation there. It was great to hear the crowd stand and cheer, and it showed people from all over the state how well Elba supports its youth.

## NEW HOPE CLAIMS ONE WIN IN DIVISION

Coch Ken English's New Hope Wildcats made the long trip to Mobile last weekend to compete in the Division I state tournament, and claimed one win before being ousted. The Wildcats are a dying breed in that they compete in a small gym and are a rural school (grades 1-9), but those handicaps didn't slow 'em down and they posted a 16-3 record and made it to state. New Hope is a small but proud school, and as long as it keeps being successful in all areas, as it is now, it will be around forever!

## TIGERS ARE FALLING ON HARD TIMES

The Elba Tigers aren't exactly closing out the season with a run! Elba has lost three straight games, and five of its last six, and has seen its record dip to 11-9 with only two regular season games left on the schedule. At one time Elba owned a 10-4 record and appeared headed for its most wins in years; however, the recent nosebleed has ended those hopes, and now the Tigers will have to fight just to have a winning record. The Tigers have had a good season, no matter how they end up, but it sure would be nice to finish with a winning record.

## A VERY STRANGE SEASON CONTINUES

This has got to be one of the strangest basketball seasons in many years, with any team being able to beat any other at almost any time! One example that comes to mind is Elba's winning easy over Opp, New Brockton's winning over Elba, and then Opp's winning over New Brockton. Nothing makes sense this season, so the upcoming tourney should be wild.

Kinston began to regain its championship form a couple of weeks ago and looked like a state contender, but then it stubbed its toe and lost to Brantley last week, so I still can't figure out the Bulldogs.

Zion Chapel has improved its record to 8-10 and the Rebs are also thinking "state," but they had better not look past anybody. There are no easy games in tournaments—only big ones: one slipup and it's over!

New Brockton hasn't exactly been settling the woods on fire, but the Gamecocks have a solid club and could surprise some folks in the Area tourney. Don't ever count out those folks who believe in Gamecock Pride!

Enterprise has a good club, but not a 4A contender. The Wildcats have as much talent as anyone in any class; however, they're in a mighty tough region. Too tough!

## WHO TO WATCH IN THE UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

The season is now over — it's tournament time! So, I'll change my format and pick the teams I think are the teams to beat in various classes. Here goes:

**CLASS 1A:** Region 1 - A.L. Johnson and Repton  
Region 2 - Pleasant Home and Kinston  
Region 3 - Zion Chapel and Loachapoka  
Region 4 - Montgomery Ac. and Verbena

**CLASS 2A:** Region 1 - St. Paul's and J.F. Shields  
Region 2 - Georgiana and Headland  
Region 3 - Autaugaville and Dadeville  
Region 4 - Holy Family and Hokes Bluff

**CLASS 3A:** Region 1 - UMS and W.S. Neal  
Region 2 - Troy and Eufrasia  
Region 3 - Livingston and Keith  
Region 4 - Tuskegee and Bibb County

**CLASS 4A:** Region 1 - LeFlore  
Region 2 - Blount  
Region 3 - B.C. Rain  
Region 4 - Selma  
Region 5 - R.E. Lee

## AND, DON'T BUY THEM TICKETS YET!

If you were thinking about buying tickets to watch Russ Wood play with the Birmingham Stallions, forget it! Russ has decided the USFL isn't for him and is back in school at Alabama. He didn't get cut — he just changed his mind.

## Prep Spotlight.....

Pat Higgins scored 104 points and grabbed 66 rebounds in three games for Five Points, 21-3; Napoleon Lovett and Charles Page combined for 29 points as Citronelle posted a 53-50 win snapping UMS Prep's 22-game winning streak despite John Hart's 27 points and 23 rebounds led well's 27 points and 13 rebounds;

Carl March of Carroll scored 25 points in a 59-57 triumph over Louisville. Rembert Martin scored 21 points, including two free throws with 23 seconds left, leading Selma past Lanier, 59-58.

And Kent Jones' 18 points and 23 rebounds led Livingston, 17-5, to a 63-60 triumph over Etowah, 15-4.

## Elba Tigers no match for Enterprise, fall 57-32

The Elba Tigers kept it close for one quarter, but couldn't keep up the pace and suffered a 57-32 loss to the Enterprise Wildcats, last week in the Elba gym.

## Georgiana upsets slumping Elba Tigers

The Elba Tigers fell behind early in the game and could never catch up last Friday night as they lost to Georgiana, 57-30, in Georgiana.

The loss dropped Elba's record to 11-9, while Georgiana now stands at 13-7.

The home standing Panthers came out looking for revenge for an early season loss and stunned Elba by pulling out to an 18-10 bulge. The Tigers began to slow down the fast paced attack of Georgiana in the second period, but couldn't find their shooting touch and went in at the half trailing 28-18. Elba showed signs of life in the third quarter and got back in the hunt, however, critical turnovers kept the Tigers from catching up and Elba still trailed 41-34 going into the final stanza.

Elba got as close as 4-points late in the contest and again had chances to pull out the win, but Georgiana held on and claimed the victory 57-30.

Darnell Cheatham scored

The win upped Enterprise's record to 14-10, while the loss left Elba with an 11-9 slate. The game was close in the early going with Elba leading all scorers with 26.

Georgiana (57): Cheatham 18, Craig 16, Crittenden 10, Davis 6, R. Pugh 4, Cobb 2, G. Pugh 2.

Elba (30): Goosby 26, Guley 8, Henderson 6, Hooks 4, Morris 4, J. Daniels 2.

(B Game)

Elba's B Team held Georgiana to only 6-points in the second half and pulled away to claim a 29-24 win. Danny Folmar scored 12-points to lead Elba to the win.

Elba 9 4 6 10 - 29  
Geor. 6 12 2 4 - 24

Elba (29): Folmar 12, R. McKinnon 7, Bowers 6, Hill 2, R. McKinnon 2.

Georgiana (24): Kaapp 12, Mitchell 10, Gandy 2.

Darnell Cheatham scored

using a patient attack against the sticky Enterprise man-to-man defense. The Tigers trained only 8-6 after one quarter and hunk close until late in the half, when the Wildcats spurred out to a 26-13 bulge. Elba battled the highly favored Cats on even terms in the third stanza and got as close as 8-points at 28-20, but it was all Enterprise from there on as the Cats ran away with the victory.

Jim Thompson scored 11 points to lead Enterprise, while Elba's Kenny Daniels led all scorers with 14.

Enterprise (57): Harrelson 6, Glover 5, Ingram 5, Marion 10, Williams 2, Hatfield 6, Ireland 5, Thompson 11, Watson 5, Laudy 2.

Elba (32): Guley 4, Hooks 3, Daniels 14, Morris 1, Goosby 8, Hudson 2.

(B Game)

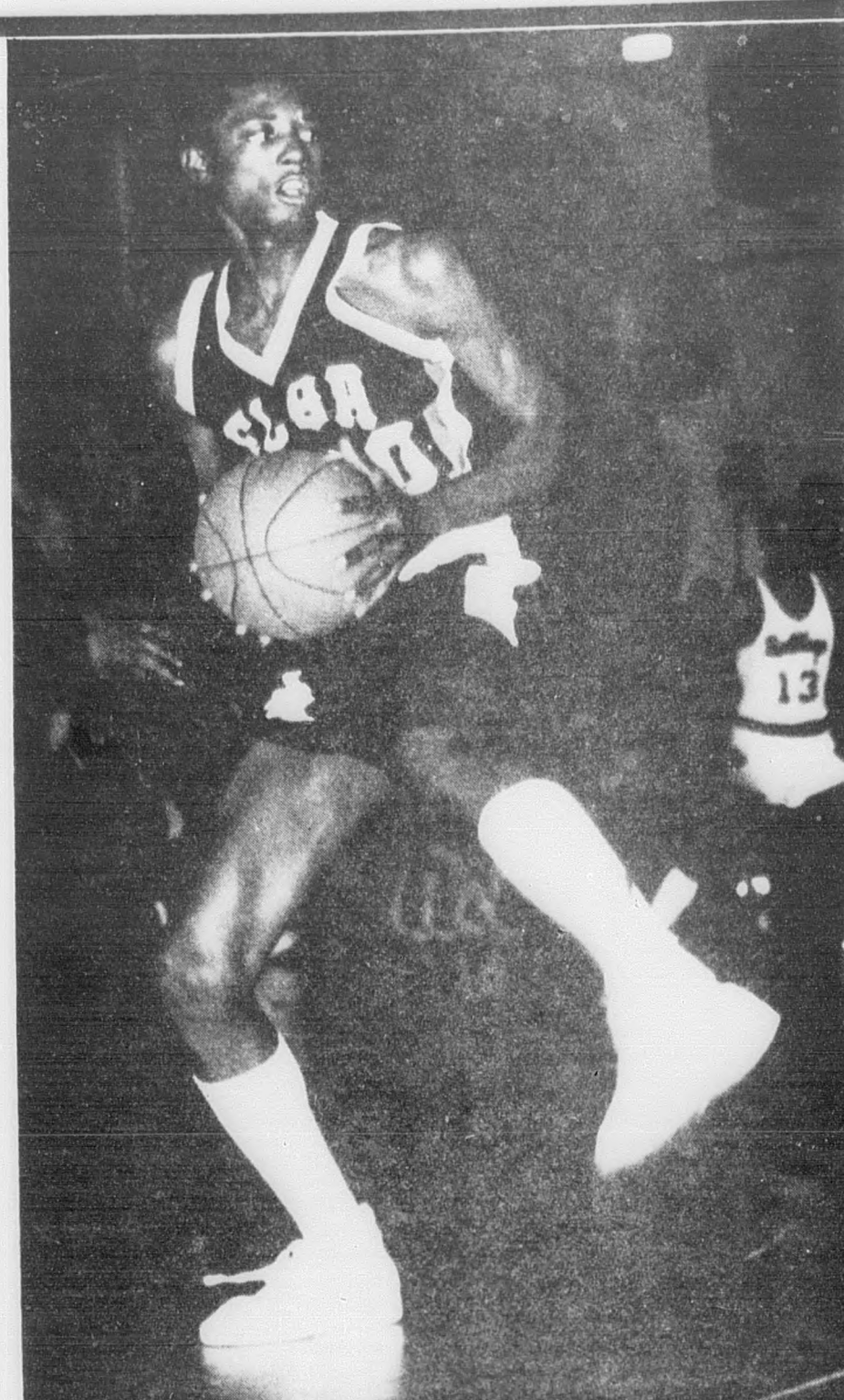
The Enterprise B team led all the way to dump Elba 61-38. The Wildcats were led in scoring by Whitaker with 25, while Tim Dyess hit 14 to pace Elba.

Enterprise 15 15 15 15 - 61

Elba 8 9 13 8 - 38

B'prise (61): Whitaker 25, Brown 4, Edwards 14, Byrd 12, Crutchfield 1, Page 5.

Elba (38): Folmar 4, Hammonds 5, Bowers 4, Dyess 14.



Elba freshman Kevin Goosby grabs a rebound in a recent Tiger game. Goosby has played a large part in the Tigers' success this season.

## Nets &amp; Lakers atop youth standings

The youth Basketball League continued its season last Saturday with the Nets and Lakers posting exciting wins. Standings show the Nets and Lakers tied for first with 3-1 records, followed by the Hawks 2-2 and the Jazz 0-4.

Games this week will pit the Lakers against the Hawks at 1:00 and the Nets against the Hawks at 2:00.

Scoring for the Nets were Stevie Sauls 5, Ryder King 3 and Joe Johnson 2. Scoring for the Hawks were Jason Grider 5, Troy Hudson 3, Carlos Magwood 2, Hayden Young 2 and Reggie Horstead 1.

Lakers 22, Hawks 17.

The Lakers pulled ahead in the third quarter and held on to post a 22-17 win over the Hawks.

Scoring for the Lakers were Bennie Daniels 9, Kevin Barnes 7, Danny Belcher 2, Keith Henderson 2, and Dewayne Rowe 2. Scoring for the Hawks were Matt Henderson 7, Joe Brooks 7 and Phil Bogan 3.

Nets 14, Jazz 13.

Brooklyn, at 6:30, Florida will tangle with Straughn, and at 8:00, Flomaton will meet Georgiana. In semi final action on Thursday, Feb. 24, it will be top-seeded Goshen meeting the Luvierne-New Brockton winner at 6:00, to be followed at 7:30 by a clash between the Florida-Straughn winner and the Flomaton-Georgiana winner. The Area finals will be on Friday, Feb. 25, at 7:00, while the State finals will be set for the L.B.W. gym, will be on Saturday, Feb. 26, at 7:00.

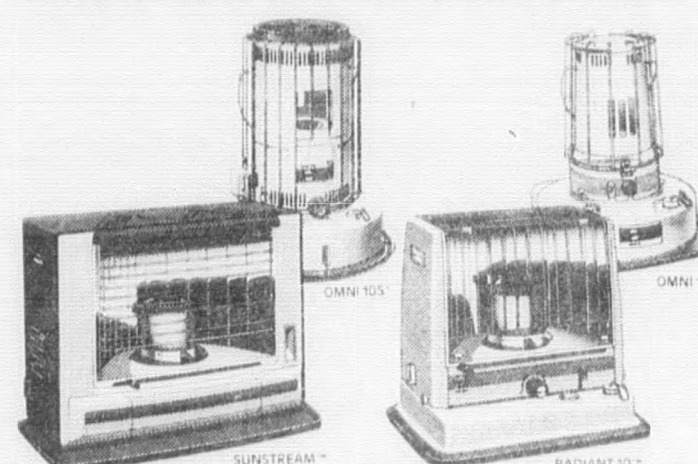
Although Goshen drew the topseed and carried a 16-8 record into this week's action, this tourney could be won by anybody, except the Hurricanes. Georgiana has been hot in recent weeks and could win it all, as could Florida, a hot-and-cold team all season long. New Brockton, the 1981 2A State Champion, can't be overlooked and the same holds true for Luvierne, a perennial contender. This one is definitely up for grabs!

Class 3A, Region 2, Area 3 At Troy High School

An eight-team field will converge at the Charles Henderson High gym in Troy in what appears to be the best Area tourney to be held. The tourney will tip-off on Monday, Feb. 21, when Abbeville and Ashford meet at 6:00, to be followed at 7:30 by the clash between top-seeded Charles Henderson and Daleville. On Tuesday, Feb. 22, the games will be on Thursday, Feb. 24, at 6:00 and 7:30, while the finals will be on Friday, Feb. 25, at 7:00. The Region finals will be on Saturday, Feb. 26, at 7:00, at the Henderson gym.

Charles Henderson, which carried a 22-5 record into this week's action is without a doubt the team to beat, but Andalusia, Brundidge and Ashford could slip in and pull an upset. This tournament will be one of the area's best in recent years.

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## Elba Junior High falls in opening round of south sub-state tourney

The Elba Junior High Tigers saw their dreams of winning the state basketball championship slip into a nightmare last Friday night when they lost to the Williamson Lions 77-35 in the opening round of the South Division II Sub-State tournament, held in Phenix City.

The loss left Elba Junior High with a final record of 16-2, while Williamson improved its record to 20-0 with the win. South Grand Junior High won the tourney by defeating Dothan in the finals.

Williamson, a 4A school, came out smoking in the opening round contest and jumped out to a 9-0 lead with less than two minutes gone in the game. The Tigers got on the board with 5-59 left in the opening stanza on a baseline jumper by Derek Young to shake the score 52-9. The Tigers began to settle down late in the quarter and outscored

Williamson 10-8 over a four-minute span to pull within 28-12 midway through the second stanza. The Lions closed the half with a flurry, however, and by halftime had put the game out of reach by pulling out to a 44-18 bulge.

The third quarter saw the two clubs swap buckets early as Elba refused to die; but Williamson ripped off 12 straight points late in the stanza and killed all Elba hopes by moving ahead 64-27 heading into the fourth quarter.

The Tiger reserves came in the game in the final quarter and held their own with the Lion swarms, as both

teams scored six points in the final six minutes of play, making the final score - Williamson 77 - Elba 35.

Bruce Lucas and Darrell Lockett scored 35 and 24 points respectively to lead Williamson, while Mick Phillips led Elba with 9.

Williamson (77): Lucas 35, Lockett 24, Thames 6, Solomon 6, Ash 2, Brown 2, Rowe 2.

Elba (35): Young 4, Osburn 8, Daniels 4, Phillips 9, McCollough 4, Wise 4, Holt 2.

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# BA CLIPPER WANT ADS

West right of way line of State Highway No. 52, then along said right of way line South 16 degrees 05' East 461.19' to a point, thence along said right of way line South 13 degrees 42' East 197.54' to a point, thence along said right of way line South 13 degrees 10' East 379.58' to a point, thence along said right of way line South 29 degrees 31' East 361.64' to a point,

follows: Commencing at the northwest corner of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , run thence North 88 degrees East 1344.4 feet to the northwest corner of the City and Elba Cemetery; thence South 24 degrees 40' East 101.2 feet to the southwest corner of said cemetery; thence North 63 degrees 18' East 223.4 feet; thence South 24 degrees 45' East 100.2 feet; thence South 24 degrees East 153.5 feet; thence South 78 degrees 13' West 44.4 feet to the northwest corner of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ .

Alabama, in Section 6, Township 5 North, Range 20 East, being more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at the northwest corner of the NW¼ of the SE¼, of Section 6; thence North 36° East 1008.9 feet along the north line of the NW¼ of the SE¼ to a point of beginning for

purpose of paying mortgage debt, accrued interest, costs and expenses of foreclosure, including reasonable attorney's fees and the balance, if any, payable to the mortgagee. Therion Wayne Smith wife, Diane F. Smith.

**BY: /s/ JEWEL SMITH  
J.E. SAWYER JR.  
2-10-3tc**

the Office of the Probate Judge of Coffee County, Alabama, Elba Division Mortgage Book 72-A, Pages 223-4, and said debt continuing, the undersigned First Citizens Bank, Lumber Alabama, will sell at public outcry for cash to the highest bidder in front of the Courthouse Door of Coffee County, between the hours of sale, at, to

in this Court and you required to appear and plead to or answer the same by 28 day of March, 1983, thereafter a decree of confession may be rendered against you.

This the 24 day January, 1983.

**JIM ELLIS, Circuit Clerk**  
1-27-4tc

**A Gift to the  
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**THIRTY YEARS A**  
**FEBRUARY 12, 19**

\*\*\*Mr. and Mrs. Parker announce the birth of a daughter at Hospital Monday, Feb. 2. She has been named Catherine Eugenia. Mrs. W.F. Foster, maternal grandparent, and Mrs. J.A. Parker, paternal grandmother, are

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February 18

M-Sat 7 & 9 5

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er No. 1014



## MULBERRY'S CORNER

Winzell Gray 897-5016

Happy Birthday goes out to Willie M. Wilson, Tracey Lacey, Erica Betney, Sharon H. William, Z.L. Fleming, St. William Earl Betney, Jr. and Z.L. Fleming, Jr.

Pray for those that are sick and shut in. Mrs. Stella Mae Tyson, Betty Jean Green, Mary Nell Knight, Donald McBird, Catherine A. Spears and Pa Pa Pruitt.

Congratulations go out to John Smith, Ronnie Campbell, and Jimmy Coleman for their recent promotion in the National Guard.

The planning committee for the class of 1986 will meet Feb. 17 at 7 o'clock at the home of Clara Smith near Stanley's Cross Roads to discuss plans of a reunion.

Congratulations also extended to Darrell Thomas who was chosen Valedictorian at Andalusia High School. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Willie S. Thomas of out 7, Andalusia.

Willie Robinson has been assigned to Ft. Benning Ga. Willie was recently assigned to a unit in Germany.

Kenneth Hardwick is home from a military school and will be on his way to Ft. Sill, Oklahoma.

Program of the usher board of the Piney Grove Baptist Church. Rev. T.E. Wright, pastor, Feb. 20, 1983 at 2:30 p.m. Theme: But seek ye first the Kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. St. Matt. 6:33. Welcome Sis. Glennie Sue Ware. Solo. Sis. Carolyn Lawrence Sermon.

Program of the women and men's day of the greater New Zion Baptist Church, Elba, Al. Feb. 20, 1983. Dr. L.B. Baldwin, Sr. pastor. Theme: Mighty problem and mighty challenges. But a mightier God. 1st Timothy 3:1. Welcome. Dec. Abraham Robinson. Occasion. Sis. Ruby Walker. Presentation. Rev. L.B. Baldwin, Sr. Rev. W.H. Bass. Special workers for the men - Dec. Raybon and Dec. Walker. Workers for the women will be Sister, C.K. Coleman and Sister Ioylene Askew.

Continuing my salute to Black History month, I'll focus this week on William Henry Hastie, the first Negro federal judge in the history of the United States. He was also the first Negro Governor also a recipient of the coveted Springarn Medal of the N.A.A.C.P. Hastie was cited in 1943 "For distinguished career as a jurist and as an uncompromising champion of equal justice" for his "protest against racial bigotry in any area fighting for democratic processes, and for his 'standard of character and conduct.'" He was also honored that year

by the trustees of the Schomburg collection of Negro History and literature of the New York Public Library. He was chosen as one of the 12 Negroes who had most distinguished themselves during 1943, particularly "for his heroic efforts to achieve full integration of the Negro in the United States Army."

After receiving his L.L.B. from Harvard in 1930, he was immediately admitted to the District of Columbia bar, entered practice and began teaching at Howard in 1933. He was awarded a doctorate in judicial science from the Dept. of Labor, prior to his acceptance of a federal judgeship in 1949. Hastie was in the words of the Saturday Evening Post, "recognized by both white and negro citizens of the Virgin Islands as 'the ablest governor' (they) ever had." He was born November 17, 1904 in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Family pictures and mementoes should be displayed in private areas of the home - bedroom, family room, hall or study. Small snapshots can be matted individually or used with one of the larger die-cut mats on the market.

An effective grouping will have pictures of the same general type and vintage. Remember, also, to have all photographs "look" toward the center of the arrangement.

Old letters, deeds, and bills of sale can add interest to antique picture groupings. Because there is no lack of family pictures and new ones are taken frequently, the photographs may be changed without upsetting the basic group arrangement.

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LaRoyce Haynes Is One Year Old

LaRoyce Haynes, son of Roy and Eva Haynes of New Brockton, will celebrate his first birthday next week. He will be one year old on February 22.

Grandparents are Annie James Haynes and Dorothy Haynes of New Brockton, and Doris and Shelly Bivins of Ozark.

Card Of Thanks

The family of Odle Leo Cauley would like to express our appreciation for the prayers and kindness you showed us during the illness and death of our husband and father.

THE CAULEY FAMILY  
2-17-17p

## HORTICULTURE TIPS

**DAN J. PRESLEY**  
**SMALL TREES**  
In pruning muscadines, remove all new canes (limbs) arising from the trunk. Also, cut all one-year-old wood back to two or three buds and remove dead and diseased wood.

**CABBAGE PRODUCTION**  
I have seen some good looking cabbage transplants this spring. I know many of you will be putting these plants out soon. Cabbage required a lot of fertilizer. Use 5 pounds of 8-8-8 (2 1/2 quarts) at planting and side-dress with one pint of ammonium nitrate when plants are growing. This is per 100 feet of row. Worms will probably be the insect in cabbage production. Thuricide, Dipel or Btrol can be used to control worms on cabbage. These are very safe.

**PRUNING MUSCADINES**  
You can prune muscadine grapes (scuppernongs) anytime from the first killing frost until just before growth begins in the spring. But if you wait until early spring, your plants will bleed. This may disturb you. Perhaps the term should be changes to weeping. Weeping doesn't hurt anyone - not even grapes. It is better to prune late than not to prune at all even if the plants ween.

**LARGE SHRUBS**  
Showy Border Forsythia  
Gardenia  
Chinese Photinia  
Burford Chinese Holly  
Camellia  
Snowball Viburnum  
Shrub Althea  
Yapoon Holly  
Crape Myrtle  
Fortune Osmanthus  
Cherry Laurel  
Pyracantha  
Common Lilac  
Pittosporum  
Podocarpus

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OVER 40 PIECES OF FURNITURE  
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Mattress Sets All Sizes Available Starting at.....\$75 set	Large framed Mirrors Values to \$150 .....\$25 ea.
Chest of Drawers .....\$66	Student Desk .....\$66
Table & 6 chairs Reg. \$1500 .....for \$400	Matching Sofa & Loveseat groups Values to \$1400, several to select from .....at \$475
Two used Recliners.....\$75 ea.	Table & 4 Chairs .....\$75
8-Piece Dining Room Group Table, china & 6 chairs Reg. \$1995 .....for \$750	Set of 6 all wood Chairs Reg. \$80 each.....for \$35 ea.
Sofa Sleepers Prices start at.....\$200	Beyhill oak Bedroom Suite Reg. \$1295 .....for \$475

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\*FLOUNDER  
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\*STEAKS & CHICKEN

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Sunday: 11:30 A.M.-10:00 P.M.

VOLUME 86

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1983

ELBA, ALABAMA 36323

3 SECTIONS 28 PAGES (Including 2 Adv. Inserts)

NUMBER 36

Standing Room Only  
Crowd Meets With  
Elba City Council

It was standing room only Monday evening as the Elba City Council convened for its regular bi-monthly meeting. Forty-three citizens, in addition to two regular radio reporters and this newspaper, were present as the city officials heard comments from the public on needs of the community.

While the majority of those present were prompted to attend by previous statements at council meetings concerning the hospital, a group of residents of the Curtis cutoff area presented a petition with 200 names urging a sewer line be installed from Kleiner's out 7/10 mile. This would afford sewer service to 14 homes and a major church. Assistant Attorney General Milton Belcher, whose parents and grandparents live in the area mentioned, was spokesman for the group and read the petition calling for the extended sewer line.

Belcher was promised that city officials would study the proposal along with the city engineer, and determine a cost prior to making a decision. Belcher also requested that he be so informed if the council felt they couldn't afford the cost, and he would work with the city officials to secure funding for the project.

Mrs. Gail Stephens addressed the council on the subject of the hospital. She spoke from a prepared statement and reviewed the history of the funding of the Elba General Hospital from sales tax of 1957 up to the sales tax ordinance of 1980. She expressed concern over the lack of adequate funding for the hospital, and stated she felt the ordinance passed by the city council in 1980 required them to start funding the expansion debt at the rate of \$3875 a month. Stephens quoted from a sales tax ordinance earmarking "up to \$75,000 a year to the hospital," and asked why it hadn't been funded.

Mayor Bob English reviewed the recent findings of Mrs. Frances Trammell, who researched the matter for the city council. He noted that the city was actually "ahead of the game" on the \$141,000 reserve fund, even though it was in a city account rather than in an account of the Hospital Authority. English noted that these funds would be transferred to the Authority as the CD's matured during the coming weeks and months.

English stated that the Elba City Council was committed to having the best medical and educational facilities of any community the size of Elba, and is seeking ways to fund these services.

English said the three alternatives he listed two weeks ago have been expanded by other suggestions presently being looked into, and he

reports of the duo's recapture were received.

According to officials, the truck stolen by the escapees was involved in a minor accident on I-65, in which a car was sideswiped. State troopers responded to the accident and stopped the truck for questioning, at which time the occupants were found to be highly intoxicated. The men were then discovered to be escapees from the Elba facility.

Carr, a white male, was serving time for the 1979 robbery of Houston County, and had a parole date of February, 1985, while Sitz, also a white male, was serving time for robbery, grand larceny and theft of lost property in Barbour and Dale Counties, and was up for parole in June, 1983.

Local law enforcement officials began searching for the escapees at 9:30 p.m., with the search continuing around Ozark, the home of both inmates.

The search continued throughout the night and the next day

Two escapees from the Elba Work Release Center were recaptured on Thursday, February 17, on Interstate 65 in Morgan County by Alabama state troopers.

The escapees - Jimmy Carr, age 26, and Albert Sitz, age 30 - reportedly walked away from the Elba facility during the night of February 16, on Wednesday night, February 16, and stole a wrecker truck at an Elba car lot. The duo apparently went to Opp, where they stole a pickup truck at a service station and then headed to north Alabama.

Local law enforcement officials began searching for the escapees at 9:30 p.m., with the search continuing around Ozark, the home of both inmates.

The search continued throughout the night and the next day



ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL Milton Belcher addressed the Elba City Council Monday night and presented a petition requesting sewage line extension on Highway 166 (Curtis cutoff).

## Elba Men Arrested For Hog Thefts

Two young Elba men were among five Coffee County residents arrested last week in connection with the recent thefts of 23 hogs and a stock trailer from three rural farms.

The Elba men, identified as Tony Grimes, age 20, and Tab Driggers, age 19, were arrested along with Jimmy Scott Thomas, age 20, of Enterprise, Tim W. Bogges, age 22, of Enterprise, and Jerry Hutto, age 22, of New Brockton. All five men were charged with theft of livestock, while Thomas, Bogges and Driggers also face charges of theft of property.

According to Livestock Theft Investigator Frank Chirico, the thefts took place over a 45-day period, with the last theft reported on Wednesday, February 16. The 23 hogs were taken at five different times from the McDaniel Farm, north of Enterprise, and the Averett Farm, near New Brockton.

Chirico reported the investigation was continuing, and stated other livestock thefts may be tied in to the five men. All of the men except Bogges are out on bond.

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